

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COTONO 00007 031310Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----031325Z 055133 /50
R 031230Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9188

C O N F I D E N T I A L COTONOU 0007

EXDIS

FOR AF/W DIRECTOR SMITH FROM CHARGE THOMPSON

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, DM, US
SUBJ: APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR TO BENIN

1. DURING DEC 31 DIPLOMATIC CORPS PRESENTATION OF CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT KEREKOU (NATIONAL PRODUCTION DAY), KEREKOU SAID TO ME "PLEASE ASK MR. JIMMY CARTER TO SEND US AN AMBASSADOR SOON." IN RECENT DAYS I HAVE HAD SIMILAR INQUIRIES FROM MINISTERS.

2. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AMBASSADOR TO BENIN BE MADE AT THE SAME TIME THAT ENVOYS ARE CHOSEN FOR OTHER SMALL AFRICAN COUNTRIES. BY FEBRUARY BENIN WILL HAVE BEEN WITHOUT AN AMBASSADOR FOR A YEAR, WHICH I THINK IS AMPLE TIME FOR US TO HAVE MADE CLEAR OUR DISPLEASURE OVER THE BENINESE GOVERNMENT'S TREATMENT OF AMBASSADOR ENGLE AND ITS BEHAVIOR ON THE CHANCERY/RESIDENCE ISSUES. BENINESE BELIEVE THAT SINCE BILATERAL RELATIONS HAVE RETURNED TO "NORMAL", IT WOULD BE UNUSUAL FOR BENIN NOT TO RECEIVE AN AMBASSADOR AT SAME TIME AS OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES. IF BENIN, FOR WHATEVER REASON, IS LEFT AT THE END OF THE QUEUE, IT WILL INTERPRET ITS NEGLECT AS A CALCULATED REBUFF ON USG'S PART.

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3. LIKE MANY OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES BENIN IS LOOKING TOWARD CARTER PRESIDENCY AS POSSIBLE DEPARTURE POINT FOR BETTER RELATIONSHIP WITH US. GIVEN FACT THAT NATURE OF OUR PRESENT RELATIONS WITH THE BENINESE IS RELATIVELY POSITIVE, I FEEL WE SHOULD ENSURE THAT BENIN, ENFANT TERRIBLE THOUGH IT BE, IS NOT THE FORGOTTEN CHILD WHEN THE AFRICAN AMBASSADORSHIPS ARE ANNOUNCED.

THOMPSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, AMBASSADORS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977COTON000007
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770001-1185
Format: TEL
From: COTONOU
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770186/aaaacwyo.tel
Line Count: 63
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: e5e3e4dd-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3674586
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR TO BENIN
TAGS: PFOR, DM, US, (CARTER, JIMMY), (KEREDOU, MATHEIU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
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